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Air Resources Board

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Gray Davis
Governor

January 31, 2002

Mail-Out #MSC-02-03

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP REGARDING PROPOSED AIRBORNE TOXIC CONTROL MEASURE FOR DIESEL PARTICULATE MATTER FROM ON-ROAD HEAVY-DUTY DIESEL-FUELED RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES

Background: In August 1998 the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) identified particulate matter (PM) exhaust from diesel-fueled engines as a toxic air contaminant. Following that determination, the ARB formed a Diesel Advisory Committee with a wide variety of stakeholders to develop the Risk Reduction Plan to Reduce Particulate Matter Emissions from Diesel-Fueled Engines and Vehicles (Diesel Risk Reduction Plan or DRRP). The DRRP, approved by the Board in September 2000, identified a number of air toxic control measures to reduce public exposure to diesel PM, including the use of emission control devices or strategies on in-use engines.

ARB staff recently began the public process of developing regulations for the control of PM emissions from in-use diesel-fueled engines. ARB staff is scheduled to bring the procedure for verifying the durability and emission reductions of diesel emission control strategies to the Board in May 2002 and this regulation addressing the use of emission control strategies to reduce in-use diesel PM emissions from heavy-duty diesel-fueled solid waste collection vehicles in June 2002. For more information, you may access ARB's website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/dieselrrp.htm>.

Workshop: This proposed regulation applies to on-road heavy-duty diesel-fueled engines used in heavy-duty residential and commercial solid waste collection vehicles and to both the collection vehicle owners and the agencies that contract these vehicles. In order to provide an opportunity for public review, ARB staff will hold a third public workshop to discuss the upcoming regulatory requirements. Issues to be discussed include revised applicability, method for calculating the active fleet size, reporting requirements, and compliance. The workshop will be held in the afternoon at the Caltrans Maintenance Facility building in Oakland and in late afternoon at the ARB facility in El Monte. Note that the workshop may end earlier than scheduled if all issues have been discussed.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

Date: February 26, 2002
Time: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Caltrans Maint. Facility
Auditorium, 4th Floor
111 Grand Ave.
Oakland, CA 94612

Date: February 28, 2002
Time: 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Location: ARB Bldg.
Auditorium, Annex 4
9480 Telstar Ave.
El Monte, CA 91731

Overview: After our second workshop on this regulation, we revised the draft order to incorporate oral and written comments from the public. The most current Solid Waste Collection Vehicle Rule Proposed Regulation Order (Draft-dated January 27, 2002) is included as Attachment 1. In summary, this proposed rule requires the best available control technology be used to reduce diesel PM emissions from heavy-duty diesel-fueled engines in on-road heavy-duty residential and commercial solid waste collection vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,000 pounds or greater. The proposed air toxic control measure could be met by using a diesel emission control strategy, repowering the engine with or without a diesel emission control strategy, converting to an alternative fuel engine, or retiring the engine. All engines relying on diesel fuel would need to use low sulfur diesel fuel by January 1, 2004. Depending on the path chosen, the implementation deadlines range from July 1, 2004 to July 1, 2009.

A few additions and clarifications have been made to the proposed regulation. First, it would apply not only to collection vehicle owners, but also to any city, county or member agency of a regional, state, or federal agency that contracts with, permits, or licenses solid waste collection vehicles. The collection vehicle owner would, therefore, need to comply with this proposed regulation in order to have a solid waste collection contract, permit or license with one of these agencies.

Second, the ARB may grant an automatic implementation delay if a diesel emission control strategy is unavailable for a certain engine category. Previously, the collection vehicle owner would have had to apply for each implementation delay.

Third, a method for calculating the active fleet size was developed. The active fleet size is now determined by calculating the total number of solid waste collection vehicles in a collection vehicle owner's active fleet as of the 1st of the year each year beginning in 2004 and continuing until the entire fleet is in compliance with the proposed regulation. The total number of collection vehicles includes alternative fueled vehicles.

Fourth, the reporting requirements have been reduced and streamlined. ARB proposes to reduce paperwork by requesting less detailed information be submitted in a compliance plan.

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Fifth, a compliance section has been added to require that records of the chosen emission control strategy be kept by the owner and produced upon request to an ARB inspector.

Staff encourages comments regarding this draft of the proposed solid waste collection vehicle rule as outlined in Attachment 1. To ensure any confidential information is handled properly, commenters should identify confidential information as such when submitted. The guidelines for ARB's handling of designated confidential information can be found at the website (<http://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/confid.htm>).

Comments are due by March 8, 2002, so that staff will have time to address them before the Proposed Regulation Order is submitted to the Board for consideration at its June 2002 public hearing.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding the workshop, please contact Ms. Crystal Reul, Staff, Retrofit Implementation Section, by e-mail at creul@arb.ca.gov or by phone at (626) 350-6543, or Dr. Nancy Steele, Manager, Retrofit Implementation Section, by e-mail at nsteele@arb.ca.gov or by phone at (626) 350-6598.

Sincerely,

//s//

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

Attachment